PATENT

Attorney Docket No. A-70723-1/TAL/VEJ Attorney Matter No. 469120-00049 Application No. 10/750,452

## REMARKS

On consideration of the claims of this pending application, Applicants submit the above Preliminary Amendment. Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 14-27 are pending in the application, with claim 14 being the independent claims. Claims 1-13 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Because the foregoing changes introduce no new matter, their entry is respectfully requested.

Applicants believe the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extension of time or additional claims, and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2319 (Order No. 469120-00049; Docket No. A-70723-1/TAL/VEJ).

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Response is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP

Date: 6/15/2004

By:

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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